

Rev A. A. Phelps

No 32 Washington St Boston Mass

He of course had a hard task to make it appear that the interest of this society required that the subjects of "Colonization, Abolition & Temperance" be no more "lectured or preached upon" when ^{on coming together} it was found that a handsome majority of the meeting were Abolitionists. I assure you the poor man for shame ^{that} his hundred spirits ^{should} deserted him at such a time) found himself in "no very pleasant situation. The Abolitionists, however, thought it to be fair, so they voted that each of the above subjects might be discussed in the church 4 times a year. Our Colonize friends thought they should not wish to use the house more than twice a year in the present state of their cause. but the Abolitionists were hardly satisfied with that, but concluded to fix it at four, or once in three months.

I have heard many remark, in effect, that the Parish Meeting of yesterday would do as much for the cause of Anti Slavery here as a course of Lectures. Go, Sir, is that the wrath of man promotes the cause of righteousness & truth.

Yours for this cause

J. Boutwell

My omission to give you the name of bro
Chas Peabody (who goes into North Worcester)
occurred to me after my letter was in the P. Offce
I have considerable confidence in br. Peabody
that he will do well for the cause in case he
does not find the ground too much pre-occupied
The bundle of "Journals" is ready for which accept
my thanks. I have supplied the brethren pretty
generously, & kept a good supply ^{myself} to distribute
at the Quar. Meeting at G. as well as in my travels.
I enclose \$100 which I have rec'd from Mr James Abbott
You have his name already, & bro. Russell will see
by reference to the letter he sent me that he
had then been marked "paid" through mistake.
You will rejoice to learn that our Parish meeting
held yesterday to see if the Parish would sheet ~~the~~
~~the~~ Church against Anti Slavery Lecture
passed off with much good feeling, & greatly to
the promotion of the cause of justice & the slave.
You will recollect, perhaps, that I expressed a ^{to you} consider-
able solicitude as to the result of it.
This has been far better than was anticipated.
The meeting was large (i.e all the members of the parish)
but of the seven petitioners who called the meeting
none appeared save one!

J. Boutwell
Andover April 16. 1839

Dear Brother Phelps.

I regret to be obliged to say to you that it will be impossible for me to leave here this week. Mr & Mrs Abbott were unexpectedly called away this morn. to New Hampshire to attend the funeral of her father, consequently my stay at home is rendered necessary.

I shall, however, provide for permitting leave here on Monday next, and will attend the meetingst Goston next week.

The other brethren have already left or will leave in the course of the week. I ought to except bro Callahan, who, you will recollect was to go into Bristol Co. Bro C. would gladly go if circumstances permit & indeed it is not certain that he will not go, but there is so much uncertainty in the case that he wishes me to say to you, that you need not reserve the ground for him.